

COLUMBUS TRANSPORTATION AND PEDESTRIAN COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
109 NORTH FRONT STREET, GROUND FLOOR, ROOM 100
TUESDAY, JULY 13, 2010
5:00 P.M.

Present were:

Voting Members: Conte, Croasmun, Moore, Simmons, Stephens

Executive Secretary: Austin

Division of Mobility Options Staff: Bowman, Lewis

Division of Planning and Operations Staff: Wilfong

Call to Order: 5:02 p.m.

Motion for approval of June 8, 2010, Minutes: Conte; 2nd, Croasmun. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

ADA POLICY

Bill Lewis distributed the current Draft ADA Policy. He indicated staff presented this draft to the Building Services Review Committee (BSRC) on July 8. He indicated public input resulted in a number of changes to the policy. He distributed and reviewed a document that showed the differences between the policy as it currently exists and the previous version. He indicated there were four main areas of major changes; all of those changes involve the orphan ramp situation. The rest of the policy has been accepted. The commissioners were provided with the new text to the policy and an illustration of how the reimbursement process will work. Mr. Lewis indicated the next step, after policy development, is to craft out the actual details of the reimbursement process. Staff will share that information with the Commission.

Discussion.

Motion: After hearing specifics about the changes regarding the orphan ramp situation of the ADA policy, this Commission recommends acceptance of the changes to the ADA Policy as presented by staff: Conte; 2nd, Simmons. Motion carried.

Planning Studies Update

Gary Wilfong gave updates on planning studies as follows:

Third Street Streetscape

Last week staff presented information to the German Village Streetscape Committee. Most of the information provided was about phasing of any potential project. Staff also provided information about some funding opportunities the German Village Society may wish to research. Staff will meet with the consultant next week to finalize a document for German Village representatives to review. Mr. Wilfong hopes to provide commissioners with a CD of that document prior to the next Commission meeting.

Discussion.

Stelzer Road

The consultant has begun to look at some alternatives. Staff hopes to present alternatives to the Commission at the next meeting. A public input session will be scheduled for mid-August.

Bicycle Subcommittee Update

Chairman Stephens indicated the Bicycle Subcommittee will meet on the last Wednesday of every month from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The first meeting was held June 30; it was an organizational/introduction meeting. There was a presentation on the BBP listing all the current projects that are underway in one stage or another. Members received a copy of the Plan. A list of the 77 recommendations that came out of the BBP was provided; members were asked to familiarize themselves with these. The funding and CIP process was discussed as well as what is in store for the next five-plus years. There was an update on the West Broad Street situation. Also there was discussion on two east-west connectors that have been identified in the plan -- the Olentangy-Alum Creek Connector (OLAC) and the Downtown Bikeway Connector (DBC). Members of the Subcommittee will get together and ride the OLAC and DBC and then provide comments to staff.

West Broad Street Update

Randy Bowman indicated the wheelchair ramp construction has begun. Once the ramps are in, crews will mill off the surface, repave, and restripe. The City has been working with ODOT on the alternate route that goes up Wheatland, Steele, and Westgate. That will not be resurfaced, but ODOT has agreed to continue working

toward having their contractor do the pavement markings for the sharrows on the bypass. Hopefully, ODOT will pay for most, if not all, of that.

Community Mobility Plans Update

Bill Lewis gave updates on community mobility plans as follows:

Spring Sandusky

Staff still plans to wait to restore speed limits to 35 mph on Neil, Fifth, King, and Third Avenues when sharrows are implemented on Neil Avenue.

Discussion.

Staff will field check construction signs observed on Neil.

Strawberry Farms

A work order has been written to modify one of the circles when the resurfacing is completed.

Linden

At the end of July, staff will present to the community their findings regarding traffic calming features on Norris and Maize.

Discussion.

Staff will brief the Commission on this issue once they have met with community leaders.

Franklinton

Division of Mobility Options staff has sent to the Office of Support Services the documents needed to advertise for a design contract. A consultant should be selected by this fall.

Olde North Columbus

There have been no changes since the last update.

Weinland Park

Bill Lewis indicated there have been no changes since the last update.

Commissioner Simmons indicated stakeholders should be advised of progress or lack thereof on mobility plans such as this. Stakeholders should be made aware of unforeseen delays and how long it may take to implement the plan.

Discussion.

Hilltop

Staff needs to wrap up the final plan.

Milo Grogan

There have been no changes since the last update.

Phase 10

Staff is meeting internally to discuss preliminary recommendations that are basically centered around reducing speed limits and changing stop sign orientation to better manage traffic flow. Staff will report on the final recommendations at the next Commission meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Valet Parking Policy

Chairman Stephens inquired about the status of this policy. Staff had no new information to report at this time.

Mayor's Twilight Ride

Chairman Stephens invited all to participate in the Mayor's Twilight Ride scheduled for July 16.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:32. p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia R. Grove
Recording Secretary

Jeff Stephens
Chairman

Patricia A. Austin
Executive Secretary

THIS MEETING WAS RECORDED; RECORDING IS ON FILE WITH RECORDING
SECRETARY AT 109 NORTH FRONT STREET, SECOND FLOOR, ROOM 209.

COLUMBUS TRANSPORTATION AND PEDESTRIAN COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
109 NORTH FRONT STREET, GROUND FLOOR, ROOM 100
TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 2010
5:00 P.M.

Present were:

Voting Members: Conte, Moore, Stephens, Wood

Executive Secretary: Austin

Division of Mobility Options Staff: Bowman, Lewis

Division of Planning and Operations Staff: Wilfong

Call to Order: 5:07 p.m.

Motion for approval of the May 18, 2010, minutes: Conte; 2nd, Wood. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Planning Studies Update

Gary Wilfong gave updates on planning studies as follows:

Third Street Streetscape Study

This study is near completion. AEP is preparing cost estimates for underground wiring, as requested by the residents. Staff has also requested an intermediate estimate that would include fewer poles and crossings above ground. Estimates should be submitted to staff by June 30. Funding for underground facilities would need to be raised by the residents. Staff is scheduling a final meeting with the Streetscape Committee. Staff will inform Commissioner Croasmun of the meeting date when determined.

Stelzer Road Study

The consultant has completed traffic counts, environmental review, and existing land use and access studies. Now they will begin to develop alternatives. Staff will meet with consultants in a few weeks to review those alternatives. Staff will present preliminary alternatives to the Commission at its July or August meeting.

ADA Policy Update

Bill Lewis indicated staff met with the Building Services Review Committee (BSRC) Subcommittee on June 3. He then reviewed some changes made to the draft policy prior to meeting with the subcommittee and some changes requested by the subcommittee. Staff's next steps are: a) provide the full BSRC with final draft for its July 8 meeting; b) return to this Commission on July 13 with a final draft for approval; c) request approval from the Director of Public Service; d) begin code change legislation process.

Randy Bowman indicated staff is proposing that this Commission be part of the appeals process for cost associated with building ramps. He also indicated there may be a public hearing on the code changes in August or September.

Discussion.

Commission Moore will send to Randy Bowman a photo and exact location of a couple of ramps on Snouffer Road that Commission Moore indicated are problematic. Staff will investigate.

Bicycle Subcommittee

Chairman Stephens indicated the subcommittee was appointed at the May 18 Commission meeting. He said an organizational meeting is scheduled for June 30. He indicated recurring meetings have been scheduled for the first Wednesday of each month; however, these will probably be rescheduled. All meetings are from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The intent for the first meeting is to review the Bicentennial Bikeways Plan (BBP).

Randy Bowman indicated he expects many suggestions and ideas will come out of the Bicycle Subcommittee and staff will keep track of them. He also indicated staff and resources are limited. He said staff will be up front and honest with the folks that have questions or suggestions and will investigate and let folks know if their suggestions should be a priority for the City or if it is something the City cannot handle right now. He said there may be some policy questions that really have to be dealt with at the State level rather than the City level.

Chairman Stephens indicated he also expects a lot of ideas/suggestions will be brought forth, but he, as the Subcommittee Chair, intends to keep the focus on the top ten priorities while still collecting comments.

West Broad Street Update

Randy Bowman indicated Public Service Director Kelsey has made a decision on the plan that keeps, for now, the parking westbound off peak from Wheatland west to Hague Avenue. He said staff is planning the design work for the striping plan for West Broad Street. Staff expects to meet ODOT's schedule. ODOT expects to begin ramp work this month, filling and milling the roadway in July, and striping in August. He indicated staff will attend the Hilltop Business Association June 9 meeting to give them more information about this project. Commissioners are welcome to attend. The meeting begins at 6:00 p.m. at Mt. Carmel Auditorium in the Administration Building.

There was discussion about a monitoring plan for this project. Randy Bowman indicated the City has a written monitoring plan developed for the experimental use of sharrows and bike boxes. He indicated the City has a lot of "before" data and staff will be monitoring the after effects on West Broad Street, Steele Avenue, and Westgate Avenue. In addition, ODOT is interested in setting up a monitoring program for the complete street projects it is involved with in Columbus. He indicated some funding may become available. Staff is working with ODOT on this issue.

Community Mobility Plans Update

Bill Lewis gave updates on Community Mobility Plans as follows:

Spring Sandusky

Mr. Lewis reported on two issues:

1. There are still two projects in the Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) to construct once bonds are sold and funds received.
2. Staff will wait to restore speed limits to 35 mph on Neil, Fifth, King, and Third Avenues when sharrows are implemented on Neil Avenue. Staff plans to implement that this year with pavement marking and signing resources.

Strawberry Farms

Strawberry Farms Boulevard will be resurfaced this year. Staff has a work order to make some adjustments at a traffic circle and will coordinate those adjustments with the resurfacing.

Linden Area Transportation Management Plan

City Council was presented with a petition from residents of Maize Road and Morse Road to have traffic calming features on those streets removed. Staff is assembling before and after analyses of crashes, speeds, and volumes to depict a data-driven picture of how those features have been effective since they were implemented at the end of last year. The Director of Public Service and staff will meet with residents this month to discuss this issue.

Franklinton Plan

Staff is in the final efforts of putting together the Request for Proposal to hire a designer to begin designing the five-year plan for Franklinton. That should be out on the streets this year.

Olde North Columbus

There has been no progress on work orders.

Weinland Park

Staff has submitted the study scope to convert Summit Street and Fourth Street to complete streets to ODOT for their review. ODOT will fund the traffic study.

Discussion.

Milo Grogan

There has been no progress.

Phase 10

This project involves signal removals on the southeast part of Columbus. Data has been collected. Staff is now in the analysis stage to determine what sort of traffic calming mitigation should be implemented when signals are removed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Parking Meter Installation Plan

During discussion on the West Broad Street issue, Commissioner Wood asked if the new style meters will be installed.

Randy Bowman indicated the City has funding for approximately 1,000 new meter heads this year, so there will be a mix of old and new. The new type meters will replace existing meters and go into the high impact areas such as the Short North, Arena District, North Market, Grandview Avenue, Pearl Street, etc. Probably the same type of meter will be installed in a block-by-block area.

Valet Parking Rules and Regulations

There was discussion relating to the status of the Valet Parking Rules and Regulations.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia R. Grove
Recording Secretary

Jeff Stephens
Chairman

Patricia A. Austin
Executive Secretary

THIS MEETING WAS RECORDED; RECORDING IS ON FILE
AT 109 NORTH FRONT STREET

COLUMBUS TRANSPORTATION AND PEDESTRIAN COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
109 NORTH FRONT STREET, GROUND FLOOR, ROOM 100
TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2010
5:00 P.M.

Present were:

Voting Members: Conte, Croasmun, Moore, Stephens, Wood

Executive Secretary: Austin

Public Service Representative: Tilton

Division of Mobility Options Staff: Bowman, George, Lewis, Stefanik, Stewart

Guests: Al Berthold and Cheryl Huffman, Neighborhood Design Center; Kathy Hoke, Hilltop Community Mobility Plan Steering Committee; Greg Watson, Greater Hilltop Area Commission; Trent E. Smith, Franklinton Board of Trade; Nancy Rhynard, Hilltop Business Association; Marian Lupo, Hilltop Mobility Plan Steering Committee; Geoffrey Phillips, Highland West Neighbors Association; Trent E. Smith, Franklinton Board of Trade; and other interested parties

Call to Order: 5:08 p.m.

Motion for approval of April 13, 2010, minutes: Moore; 2nd, Croasmun. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Parking Meter Advisory Team Final Report Update

Randy Bowman indicated the Team's last meeting was April 20, staff has briefed the Mayor and City Council, and the report is now final and available online at http://columbuspvb.com/Documents/05122010_Final_Report-cg.pdf. Mr. Bowman gave a brief overview of the recommendations and reviewed the implementation process.

ADA Policy Update

Randy Bowman gave a brief description of the Draft ADA Policy. He indicated staff will discuss the final draft of the ADA Policy with the subcommittee of the Building Services Review Committee (BSRC) on June 3, request this Commission's input on June 8, and brief the full BSRC on June 10.

Bicycle Subcommittee

Chairman Jeff Stephens reviewed the interview process for members of the Bicycle Subcommittee. He gave brief backgrounds of members selected. The members are: Jeff Stephens as Chair, Christine Green, Tricia Kovacs, Brian Moore, and Aaron Schill. Chairman Stephens indicated the Subcommittee will be called to action soon. The intent is to hold monthly meetings at least through the next six months. He said meetings will be open to the public, and the Subcommittee will welcome the public to provide input as appropriate and invited.

Hilltop Parking Study/West Broad Street Mobility Plan

(PowerPoint slides and a transcript of proceedings of this issue are available upon request.)

Following opening comments by Randy Bowman, Bill Lewis gave an extensive PowerPoint presentation on this issue. He reviewed the material presented at the May 6 public meeting, discussed the results of that meeting, and talked about next steps.

Al Berthold and Cheryl Huffman from the Neighborhood Design Center presented the results of their parking study.

Bill Lewis continued with his presentation and concluded with slides depicting the six options described during the presentation and under consideration for West Broad Street. Illustrations of options are attached as part of these minutes.

Mr. Lewis informed the Commission that the Greater Hilltop Area Commission voted last week for Option “VI.”

Discussion.

Geoffrey Phillips, Highland West Neighbor’s Association, addressed the Commission and supported Option “VI” as a good compromise.

Marian Lupo, Hilltop Mobility Plan Steering Committee and Highland West resident, addressed the Commission and submitted written comments. She spoke in opposition to the new options (Option “V” and “VI”) and supported north-side bike lanes.

Nancy Rhynard, Hilltop Business Association and Greater Hilltop Area Commissioner, spoke positively about the process and information gained. She indicated there are some other issues that still need to be addressed. She supported Option “VI.”

Kathy Hoak, Hilltop Mobility Plan Steering Committee, addressed the Commission and submitted written comments. She favored Option “III.”

Greg Watson, GHAC Commissioner, addressed the Commission. He indicated he supported Option “V” and felt it was a fair compromise.

Chairman Stephens indicated that this Commission is not making the final decision on this issue. The final decision will be made by the Public Service Director and the Mayor.

Following discussion, Chairman Stephens asked each Commissioner to indicate their first and second choice and explain why they chose those options. Four of the five commissioners present today voted for Option “V” as first choice and Option “VI” as second choice; one voted for Option “VI” as first choice and Option “V” as second. A transcript of commissioners’ testimony regarding their votes will be provided for consideration by the Director of Public Service.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia R. Grove
Recording Secretary

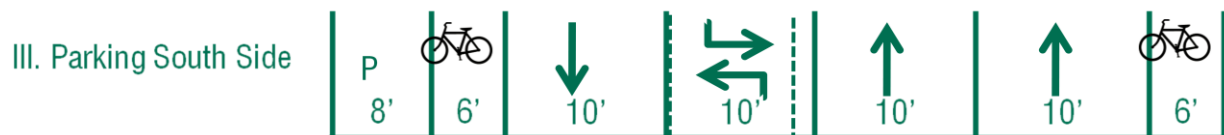
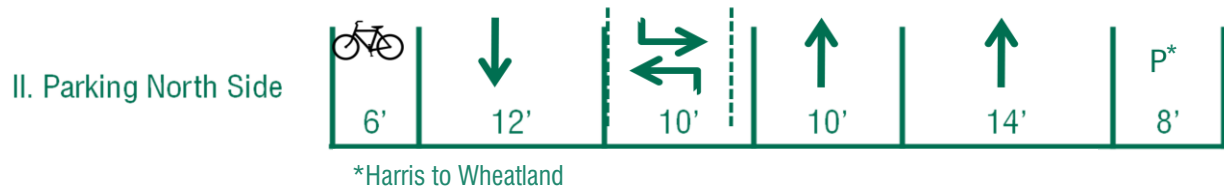
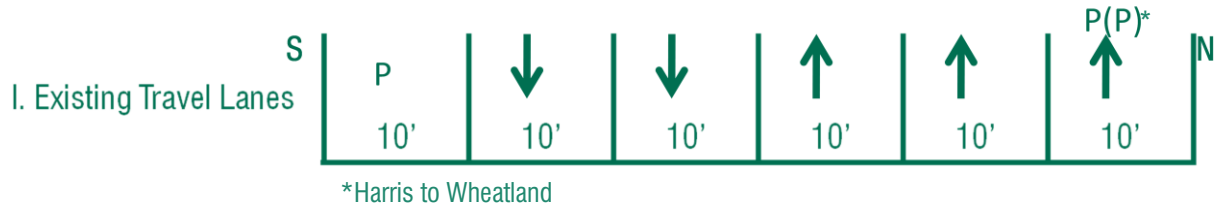
Jeff Stephens
Chairman

Patricia A. Austin
Executive Secretary

THIS MEETING WAS RECORDED; RECORDING IS ON FILE WITH RECORDING
SECRETARY AT 109 NORTH FRONT STREET, SECOND FLOOR

W. Broad Street Alternatives for Resurfacing Project 2010

Limits: Harris Avenue to Clarendon Avenue in the Hilltop Area



W. Broad Street Alternatives for Resurfacing Project 2010

Limits: Harris Avenue to Clarendon Avenue in the Hilltop Area

IV. Parking Both Sides



*Harris to Wheatland

V. Parking South Side/ Limited Parking North Side

Parking South Side/Limited Parking North Side

Eureka Avenue to Wheatland Avenue



**Travel Lane 4-6 PM (M-F)/Parking All Other Times

There will be a westbound transition in the block of Wheatland Avenue to Oakley Avenue

Parking South Side

Hague Avenue to Eureka Avenue/Wheatland to Clarendon



Harris

Eureka

Wheatland

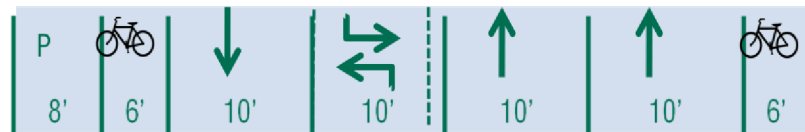
Clarendon

VI. Parking South Side/ Existing Parking Restrictions North Side



**Travel Lane 4-6 PM (M-F)/Parking All Other Times

There will be a westbound transition in the block of Wheatland Avenue to Oakley Avenue



Harris

Wheatland

Clarendon

COLUMBUS TRANSPORTATION AND PEDESTRIAN COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
109 NORTH FRONT STREET, GROUND FLOOR, ROOM 100
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2010
5:00 P.M.

Present were:

Voting Members: Conte, Croasmun, Moore, Stephens

Division of Mobility Options Staff: Lewis

Division of Planning and Operations Staff: Blechschmidt, Wilfong

Guests: Kenneth Cohen, John Gideon, Tricia Kovacs

Call to Order: 5:10 p.m.

Motion to approve March 9, 2010, minutes: Conte; 2nd, Moore. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Planning Studies:

Gary Wilfong reported on and requested Commission action on the following planning studies:

Lazelle Road

At the March meeting, commissioners were provided with a CD of the draft Lazelle Road Study to review prior to taking action at today's meeting. Mr. Wilfong briefly reviewed the study. He indicated the issue that generated the most discussion was whether to have a roundabout or a traffic signal at Old State Road. The consultant has recommended the roundabout as detailed in the CD provided. There will be roadway widening to three lanes and some new bridges will be built for the railroad.

Discussion.

Motion to approve the Lazelle Road Planning Study as presented: Moore; 2nd, Croasmun. Motion carried.

Parsons Avenue

At the March meeting, commissioners were provided with a CD of the presentation for the Parsons Avenue Corridor Study to review prior to taking action at today's meeting. Mr. Wilfong reviewed the study. The consultant's recommendation is for a three-lane section with two through lanes and a center, two-way, left-turn lane. This option provides left-turn lane protection which the consultant believes will reduce accidents. Currently, at all signalized intersections, left turns are prohibited; with this option, that restriction can be removed.

Some of the business owners are concerned about parking. The consultant did a study that looked at the current parking demand and what is available for parking. The study indicated parking can be removed as there is not enough demand to warrant the amount of parking that is out there today. However, there are certain businesses that need on-street parking, so the plan is to alternate parking from one side to another to try and pick up the businesses that would be impacted the most by the loss of parking. If/when this project moves forward to construction, the decision on exactly where parking is needed and where spaces can be removed will be finalized. There will be non-restricted parking on one side or the other.

The consultant has also looked at some possible traffic calming beyond just a road diet. There will also be wider lanes to accommodate bicycles. Division of Planning and Operations staff is working with Division of Mobility Options staff on finalizing exactly how that will be marked out. It will not be a dedicated bike lane, but could possibly accommodate sharrows.

Discussion.

Motion to accept the study and the recommendations in alternative three as proposed in the Parsons Avenue Corridor Traffic Study: Conte; 2nd, Moore.
Motion carried.

Gary Wilfong gave updates on planning studies as follows:

Stelzer Road

ms consultants have basically completed all of their data collection and are in the process of assembling that information into some base mapping. They are working on their capacity analysis for the roadway. The next steps, once that work is completed, is to put together some alternatives. A public meeting will be

held in June or July. The stakeholders have been identified for that area; about sixty stakeholders will be invited to the public meeting.

Commission representative needs to be identified prior to public process. Staff will request a volunteer at the next meeting.

Third Street Streetscape Study

The consultant has been working with utility companies to come up with some alternatives for German Village to look at. Staff hopes to meet with the German Village Society on May 4. Within a couple weeks after that, the document should be finalized. Mr. Wilfong indicated he will possibly have more information to present to the Commission at the next Commission meeting.

Sunbury Road

This study was initiated by Ohio Dominican University (ODU). They are looking at improvements on Sunbury Road. This study started off as a traffic study for some projects ODU has going on in the area. ODU wanted to make it more of a preliminary engineering study that would look at improvements for the whole corridor. ODU has submitted that study for staff to review; comments are due by the end of this week. This is a potential project that ODU would like to see move forward and to find some funding for. As with all projects, the City does not have money for construction. At this point, staff just wanted the Commission to be aware of the study that might develop into more of a City project at some point. If this becomes more of a City project, staff will request more involvement from the Commission.

Discussion.

Community Mobility Plans Update

Bill Lewis gave updates on Community Mobility Plans as follows:

Spring Sandusky

Staff is still looking to build a couple of features when/if money becomes available from a bond sale this year. Staff is working on revising the speed limits on Neil, Fifth, King, and Third Avenues. Revisions should be ready to present to the Commission in late spring or early summer.

Strawberry Farms

A work order has been written to modify a traffic circle on Strawberry Farms at Chickory to make it more visible at night and to further reduce the entering speeds. Hopefully, the work will be completed this spring.

Linden Area Transportation Management Plan

Staff attended the March 18 North Linden Area Commission meeting to discuss residents' concerns on the design of medians and chicanes on Maize and Norris. The residents want them removed as they believe they are dangerous. Staff's response is to continue to monitor speeds and crashes to determine what long-term effects those traffic calming devices have. Currently, the City has no plans to remove those features. The residents may be submitting a petition to the City for removal of the chicanes and medians.

Discussion.

Franklinton

Staff has been given the go ahead to revive the request for proposal for designing the Franklinton features that were in the community plan. Hopefully, this will be funded with the bond sale this year. Staff would like to proceed with designing the features this year.

Olde North Columbus

Staff is still working on work orders to traffic calm North Street and Tompkins.

Weinland Park

Staff is still in discussions with ODOT about developing a schedule for further study and implementation to construct bike lanes on Fourth and Summit. First a traffic study needs to be completed to make sure a travel lane can be removed, bike lanes can be installed, and more on-street parking added from Warren to Hudson.

Discussion.

Milo Grogan

This Plan is on "hold" at this time as staff works through other plans.

Phase 10

This Plan is on “hold” at this time as staff works through other plans.

Greater Hilltop – West Broad Street

Bill Lewis gave a PowerPoint presentation on this community mobility plan. Copies of PowerPoint slides are available upon request. Mr. Lewis reviewed actions to date, various plans regarding the Hilltop, Columbus Zoning Code requirements, West Broad Street alternatives for the 2010 resurfacing project, parking studies, parking options, current West Broad Street Bikeways status, bike lanes, a new interim solution, and current meeting schedule.

Discussion.

A public meeting will be held in April, a presentation will be made to the Greater Hilltop Area Commission on May 11; and staff will request Commission action on May 18.

Parking Meter Advisory Team Update

Commissioner Croasmun gave an update on this issue. The Team is trying to get this wrapped up and make recommendations by the end of April.

Discussion.

Safe Routes to School

Bill Lewis reported that at the February meeting staff informed the Commission of two applications staff submitted to ODOT for Safe Routes to School projects. Both applications were approved for \$500,000 each. Those projects are in Franklinton. One at Town and Dana Avenue where staff is putting in some curb extensions to assist school children crossing the street, as well as some curb extensions on Dana Avenue at Dana Elementary. The second application is for a shared use path along Hague and Valleyview to assist children crossing the railroad track and getting to Westmoor Middle School and an elementary school. Both projects will be undergoing design this year; construction will be scheduled for 2011.

Bike Subcommittee Purpose and Scope

Bill Lewis reported that at the last meeting staff presented a draft idea for a mission statement and purpose and scope for the Bicycle Subcommittee. Today staff requested

Commission discussion, comments, and, hopefully, adoption of this document as the guiding principles for the Bicycle Subcommittee.

Chairman Stephens stated for the record that the Commission appointed a permanent Bicycle Subcommittee. He read the mission statement and purpose and scope as follows:

The mission statement will be to integrate bicycles into the transportation systems of Columbus and Central Ohio by providing a safe and convenient network of bikeways and related bike facilities. The purpose and scope will be to: A) provide assistance in the design and operation of bike facilities; contribute to transforming the Bicentennial Bikeways Plan (BBP) recommended facilities into practical and affordable projects; offer advice and interpretation of design standards for safe bicycle travel and parking; research best practices and determine applicability to Columbus; and project scope review; B) monitor progress in the implementation of all BBP recommendations; C) assist in the prioritization and programming of BBP projects and programs as well as any plan updates; D) collect community concerns regarding general bike issues; E) serve as a conduit for public input when determined necessary; F) provide regular reports to the Transportation and Pedestrian Commission.

Motion to approve the aforementioned mission statement purpose and scope as the mission and purpose and scope for the bicycle subcommittee: Conte; 2nd, Moore.

Discussion.

Motion to amend motion to modify the purpose and scope by changing “project scope review” to “design project scope review for conformance with BBP” and to approve, as modified, the aforementioned mission statement and purpose and scope as the mission and purpose and scope of the Bicycle Subcommittee: Croasmun; amendment accepted by Conte; 2nd, Croasmun. Discussion.

Tricia Kovacs wondered if the purpose and scope is clear enough to indicate that the education, encouragement, enforcement, and evaluation pieces of the BBP are under the scope of this bicycle subcommittee. Following discussion, commissioners indicated the elements referred to by Ms Kovacs are made clear in the Plan and modification to the purpose and scope is not necessary.

Following discussion Chairman Stephens called for the question. Motion carried.

Chairman Stephens indicated that about ten bicycle subcommittee member applications have been received. The deadline for submitting applications is April 16. He then indicated he will Chair the Committee on a temporary basis, but there is still a voting member vacancy for this Commission, so a permanent Chairman should be decided on after the vacancy is filled. He further indicated that Section VII of the Commission’s

Bylaws indicates that with approval of the Commission Chair, with concurrence of the Director of Public Service, the subcommittee may hold a public meeting to solicit broad opinion. Chairman Stephens stated that he, as the Commission Chair, with the concurrence of the Director of Public Service, will have all these Bicycle Subcommittee meetings open to the public at this point. He further indicated that before the May 18 meeting, the members of the Subcommittee should be identify and announced. Once that has occurred, the members of the Subcommittee will begin to work out a regular schedule. The Bicycle Subcommittee meetings will be run much like this Commission.

NEW BUSINESS

Easton Parking Variance

Gary Wilfong presented a parking variance that has been requested at 4148 Easton Commons. This is the same area where permit parking was requested last month. The current City Code requires two parking stalls per unit. That requirement will probably be changed in May to require 1.5 stalls per unit. Easton Commons has 370 residential units for which they are requesting a variance to only one stall per unit. Staff feels comfortable with requiring 1.5 stalls per unit.

Discussion.

Motion to deny the current variance request and recommend the developer comply with at least the anticipated parking code change of 1.5 stalls per unit unless they can provide compelling reasons otherwise: Conte; 2nd, Moore. Motion carried.

Zoning Variance – Turkey Hill Gas Station at High and Westview

Gary Wilfong informed the Commission that staff is not asking for any action on this issue; it is an informational item only.

There is a rezoning application at 5271 North High Street for a Turkey Hill Gas Station and Convenience Store. The primary access would be directly across from Sunnyside Lane. They would also have a shared access with the Pig Iron Restaurant. They would have another access via an alley that connects to Kanawha. Kanawha is a signalized intersection so it is anticipated that some traffic would go through that alley to access the signalized intersection. Staff has been working with them on traffic related issues, but has not given a definite go ahead. It is definitely a hot issue with the neighborhood and the area commission did not give its approval. Staff has had discussions with the applicant about widening the alley, but that decision has not yet been made.

Discussion.

ADA Policy Update

Bill Lewis gave an update of staff's draft comprehensive ADA Policy. In addition, over the next month, staff will provide the commissioners with other materials for their review. Staff will seek Commission approval at the May meeting. Currently the City has three different policies to guide implementation of ADA facilities -- detectable warnings, pedestrian push buttons, and ramps in general. This policy in part consolidates those policies and also includes guidelines and federal requirements. The policy is needed to help staff remain compliant with the provision of the ADA Act of 1990.

Mr. Lewis reviewed some of the conditions that would require curb ramps. He reviewed how the policy also addresses the way the City handles requests from the public for ramps, types of curb ramps the City allows, and requirements for pedestrian push buttons. He indicated staff has discussed this with the Building Services Review Commission (BSRC).

Mr. Lewis then gave a detailed description of orphan ramps, described who would build them, and how developers/City could possibly be reimbursed for the cost associated with building/designing ramps that are not part of their development. He indicated staff is still discussing this issue with the BSRC and will present this information to the BSRC working group this month and to the full committee next month. After those presentations, staff will bring this issue back to the Commission for approval.

Discussion.

OTHER BUSINESS

Parking Policy Update

Chairman Stephens informed the Commission that changes to the parking code will have a first reading at the April 19 City Council meeting and will be voted on at the May 11 Council meeting. This Commission approved the proposed parking policy in August of last year.

Commission Member Vacancies

Chairman Stephens informed the Commission that Lt. Ed Devennish retired from the Columbus Police Division (CPD) and will no longer represent the CPD on the Commission. A substitute from CPD has been identified. For the record, Chairman Stephens thanked Lt. Devennish for his years of service to the Commission.

Chairman Stephens indicated the Commission still has a voting member vacancy. Some candidates have been submitted to the Executive Secretary and the Public

Service Director. He asked that anyone who has any other ideas of submission for candidates, to please make those known.

Tricia Kovacs indicated she knew a person who may wish to submit an application. Chairman Stephens indicated that application has already been submitted.

Hilltop Public Meetings

Chairman Stephens encouraged commissioners to attend the upcoming public meeting and the Greater Hilltop Area Commission.

May 18 Commission Meeting

Staff would like to limit agenda items for May to the West Broad Street/Hilltop Mobility Issue and the ADA Policy.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia R. Grove
Recording Secretary

Jeff Stephens
Chairman

Patricia A. Austin
Executive Secretary

THIS MEETING WAS RECORDED; RECORDING IS ON FILE WITH RECORDING SECRETARY AT 109 NORTH FRONT STREET, SECOND FLOOR, ROOM 209.

COLUMBUS TRANSPORTATION AND PEDESTRIAN COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
109 NORTH FRONT STREET, GROUND FLOOR, ROOM 100
TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2010
5:00 P.M.

Present were:

Voting Members: Conte, Croasmun, Moore, Simmons, Stephens, Wood

Executive Secretary: Austin

Public Service Representative: Tilton

Division of Mobility Options Staff: Bowman, Christian, Keeran, Lewis,

Guests: Meredith Joy, Melanie Mayo, Damon Givens

CALL TO ORDER: 5:00 P.M.

MINUTES:

Motion to approve February 23, 2010, minutes: Simmons; 2nd, Wood. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Parking Meter Rate Advisory Team Update

Commissioner Croasmun indicated the Team has had four meetings to date and have been making very good progress. The Team established goals to use when looking at parking, and they have gone out and observed different areas in the city. They looked at on-street meter parking and evaluated turnover rates, time of day parking was full, parking issues on weekends, etc. City staff has looked at similar information. The information collected by the Team and the City will be compared to ensure they are on the same track. There are a few more things to do such as gather and review additional information, make some immediate short-term recommendations to get the revenue stream in place, and then look at long-term goals.

In response to a question from Commissioner Simmons about the type of parking meters the City plans to purchase, Randy Bowman indicated the City is looking at the new parking meter technology, largely based on the pilot meters on Gay Street. The new meters will have solar batteries, less maintenance cost, secure credit card transactions, flexibility for programming messages to customers, and the ability to manage meters through the internet. The new meters will enable the City to be quicker to respond to customer parking needs and will be easier to enforce. Also, since the new meters are cell-phone enabled and can be managed over the internet, other enhancements will be possible in the future.

NEW BUSINESS:

Residential Permit Parking Change – Easton Square Place

Keeth Keeran gave a PowerPoint Presentation on this issue. Copies of slides are available upon request. Staff received valid petition to change the existing permit parking restriction on Easton Square Place from Easton Way to Charter Oaks Way. The current restriction of “No Parking Except City Permit EC” was established during the development process. After the units were occupied, management saw a need to change the restriction to “Two-hour Parking, 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 pm., Except City Permit EC. All criteria are met. Staff recommends approval of this request.

Melanie Mayo, representing Easton Commons Apartments/Nationwide Realty, Inc., spoke in support of change. She indicated the primary reason they are requesting a restriction change is to facilitate a successful salon business on Easton Square Place.

Discussion.

Damon Givens, Stile Salon, spoke in support of request.

Discussion.

Motion to approve requested change in the residential permit parking area: Moore; 2nd, Croasmun. Motion carried.

Staff will review signage to ensure the restriction is clear to motorists.

Commissioners expressed concern about residential permit parking being included during the development stage. Was there a zoning variance approved contingent on these residential permit parking spaces? If there are other developments that include residential permit parking, the Commission wants the opportunity to have input during the development stage.

Discussion.

The Division of Planning and Operations staff will bring some parking variances to the Commission so commissioners can see what staff approves on a normal basis.

Bicentennial Bikeways Plan (BBP) Subcommittee

Bill Lewis distributed and briefly discussed a draft BBP Subcommittee Purpose and Scope document provided for the Commission's review. Also distributed was a recommendation from the BBP regarding the Subcommittee's role. He indicated the Subcommittee should consist of five members, including one member of this Commission to chair the Subcommittee. The other four members should be members with varied expertise, not just bike riders, but possibly designers or a representative from the health industry. One of the next steps is for this Commission's Chairman and Executive Secretary to submit a list of potential members to the Director of Public Service for final approval.

Meredith Joy addressed the Commission. She indicated she had concerns about the Subcommittee being closed to the public. Also, she stressed the importance of diversity and openness in the process in recruiting experts to serve.

Vice Chairman Conte indicated the Commission is taking suggestions for members; if anyone has suggestions, they should submit them to Chairman Stephens. Then, per Commission Bylaws, suggested candidates will be approved by the Director of Public Service.

Discussion.

It was suggested that someone from the Mid Ohio Regional Planning Commission be represented on the Committee.

Commissioners will take action on the Purpose and Scope at the April 13 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia R. Grove
Recording Secretary

Marc Conte
Vice Chairman

Patricia A. Austin
Executive Secretary

THIS MEETING WAS RECORDED; RECORDING IS ON FILE WITH RECORDING
SECRETARY AT 109 NORTH FRONT STREET, SECOND FLOOR, ROOM 209.

COLUMBUS TRANSPORTATION AND PEDESTRIAN COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
109 NORTH FRONT STREET, GROUND FLOOR, ROOM 100
FEBRUARY 23, 2010
5:00 P.M.
(Rescheduled from February 9)

Present were:

Voting Members: Conte, Croasmun, Simmons, Stephens

Executive Secretary: Austin

Division of Mobility Options Staff: Bowman, Lewis,

Division of Planning and Operations Staff: Wilfong

Guests: Patricia Kovacs

CALL TO ORDER: 5:05 p.m.

Motion for approval of December 10, 2009, minutes: Croasmun; 2nd, Conte. Motion carried.

Planning Studies Update

Gary Wilfong gave updates on planning studies as follows:

Third Street

Approximately twenty-five people attended a public meeting held in January. This study is primarily focused on access on Third Street. Staff is also looking at some traffic calming possibilities, as well as things the residents want looked at such as utilities relocation. Staff is currently working to coordinate a meeting with the utility entities that have services in the area. The purpose of the meeting is to come up with cost estimates to relocate utilities. Once meeting has taken place, another meeting will be scheduled with the streetscape committee for the German Village Commission and possibly the German Village Commission.

Stelzer Road

The notice to proceed was given to ms consultants in late December/early January. The study area is from the new VA Hospital up to I-670 past the Airport. It is based on a study commissioned by the Airport; they did some very preliminary looking at improvements. This study takes it to the next step. There

will be more in-depth traffic analysis to come up with recommended improvements. There will be possibly two public involvement meetings; the first meeting will be held in June/July. A Commission representative is needed for this planning study.

Parsons Avenue

A presentation was given to the Commission last fall. Mr. Wilfong reviewed and distributed copies of slides depicting the highpoints from that PowerPoint presentation. The full study should soon be available at <http://pubserv.ci.columbus.oh.us/transportation/GettingAround/commission.htm>. The consultant recommends alternative number three – a three-lane section with alternating full-time parking with wider lanes for bicycles.

Discussion.

Staff will seek the Commission's recommendation at the March 9 meeting. Mr. Wilfong will advise the commissioners when study is available on line.

Lazelle Road

Mr. Wilfong reviewed and distributed copies of the section of the consultant's draft preliminary study relative to the corridor on Lazelle Road from High Street to Worthington-Galena Road. Staff will seek Commission's recommendation at the March 9 meeting. Staff would especially like the Commission's input with regard to installation of a traffic signal or a roundabout between Flint Road and Sancus Boulevard. The consultant prefers the roundabout; the majority of public comments favor the traffic signal. Staff will meet next week to review City comments with the consultant. At that time staff will request the consultant better address accommodating pedestrians in the roundabout, as well as concerns the public has with the roundabout. This information needs to be incorporated into the study. The study will be posted on line as soon as possible. Mr. Wilfong will advise commissioners when the study is available at <http://pubserv.ci.columbus.oh.us/transportation/GettingAround/commission.htm>.

Discussion.

West Broad Street Walking Tour

Chairman Stephens thanked commissioners and staff for participating in the walking tour and for their thoughtful comments on this issue. He indicated, as the neighborhood was informed, the Commission will not take action on this issue until all data is provided. Currently a parking study is being performed by the Neighborhood Design Center.

Bylaws

Bill Lewis presented and commissioners and staff discussed recommended changes and additions to the Commission's Bylaws.

Motion to approve Bylaws as revised: Croasmun; 2nd, Simmons. Motion carried.

Community Mobility Plans Update

Bill Lewis gave a PowerPoint presentation and updated the Commission on community mobility plans as follows:

Spring Sandusky

Two more features will be constructed when funds become available. The Ohio Department of Transportation has notified staff that the temporary speed limit of 25 mph on Neil, Third, Fifth, and King avenues needs to be changed back to 35 mph, as they were prior to construction. Speed data collected for the monitoring report showed reduction to the 25 mph speed limit is not justified.

Discussion.

Executive Secretary Austin will forward to commissioners a fact sheet stating how speed limits are set.

Strawberry Farms

Staff will be making some changes to a traffic circle to reduce entering speeds and enhance delineation through additional signing.

Linden Area

Four chicanes were installed to help enforce the 35 mph speed limit. There have been complaints about the chicanes on Maize Road. A ten-foot lane width is maintained (in some areas eleven foot) between the bumpout and the median

chicane. The Fire Department and the Public Service Department snow plows have no problems with the chicane; people who speed have problems. Part of the issue was that not all advance signing (traffic calming ahead and divided highway signs) was up when the features were finished, plus they were somewhat hidden by snow. All the signs are up now. Staff believes it would be helpful to add a plaque to "Traffic Calming Ahead" signs that actually indicates whether the calming device is a speed bump or chicane. Staff believes that would better educate the drivers as to the type of caution they need to take.

The same treatment installed on Maize Road was installed on McGuffey Road; there were no complaints.

Discussion.

Commissioner Simmons indicated there was a problem on Hamilton between Hudson and Seventeenth where center bumps were installed; the snow plows actually covered up the signage on the reflectors. Staff will look at the signage and perhaps raise the height.

Franklinton

A design contract is ready to go once funds are available. Staff is also going to look at extending the Hilltop West Broad study down to COSI. Staff is working with ODOT to develop a scope of services for the traffic study to possibly do a road diet that would include bike lanes and address the parking issues in Franklinton on West Broad Street.

Old North Columbus

Staff is ready to issue a work order for one of the first improvements from this plan. To address a speeding problem and provide more parking, staff will narrow the travel lane and install back-in parking on the south side of North Street. Parallel parking will be retained on the north side.

The second improvement from this plan is at Tompkins and Medary. Bumpouts will be installed to help slow traffic and address right-angle crashes. The work order for this improvement is currently being developed.

Greater Hilltop

The Neighborhood Design Center is working on a parking study for West Broad Street.

ODOT's Complete Street Policy Development

Bill Lewis informed the Commission that, as part of ODOT's Complete Street Policy development, ODOT has identified seven pilot projects where they want to implement complete streets. Out of those seven, five are in Columbus. The areas identified are: Fourth and Summit in Weinland, three sections of Broad Street from Prairie Township down to COSI, and the I-70/71 split.

Weinland Park

Staff is working with ODOT to do a traffic study, funded by ODOT, to help staff determine the number of lanes, including a bike lane, on both Fourth and Summit from Hudson to Warren Street.

MiloGrogan

This is a small traffic management plan that is on "hold" right now while staff is working on other community plans.

Phase Ten Signals

This involves an area south and east of downtown where traffic signals will be removed, as they are no longer justified. Staff wants to address removal issues by installing some traffic calming features. Division of Mobility Options Staff is working with Division of Planning and Operations staff to develop a scope of work.

ODOT Safe Routes to School

Franklinton

Bill Lewis reported that one of staff's applications for Safe Routes to School funding has been awarded. Two hundred thirty-five thousand dollars was awarded for Rich Street sidewalks. The project, managed by ODOT, is currently in the design phase. Construction is expected to begin in fiscal year 2011.

Staff has applied for funding of two more projects. One is in Franklinton and involves Town Street and Dana Avenue. On Town at Hawks and Avondale, staff is looking at putting in curb extensions to shorten the pedestrian crossing and also to reduce traffic speeds at those intersections. This will serve the Avondale school. The improvements on Dana serve Dana Elementary. Curbouts will be

installed, along with a raised pedestrian crossing, to shorten the crossing distance and act as a calming device. Staff should hear from ODOT next month as to whether or not this application is approved.

Hilltop

Staff's second application is from the Hilltop school travel plan. It will install a shared-use path along Valleyview and Hague. The purpose is to allow school children living south of the railroad tracks to access Valleyview Elementary and Westmoor Middle schools. Currently children are cutting across the railroad tracks west of Hague and utilizing church and YMCA property. Staff has requested \$500,000 for this application. Staff should hear from ODOT next month as to whether or not application is approved.

Discussion.

As mentioned by Commissioner Simimons, staff may contact Operation Lifesaver for its recommendation for the railroad piece of this pedestrian gate.

Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC)

Bill Lewis reported JARC is a program funded by FTA. It is similar to the New Freedom Grant. This grant program is designed to help people access transit to get to their worksite. Staff applied for a shared-use path along Olentangy from North Broadway to Ackerman. The Bicentennial Bikeway Plan calls for a shared-use path in this corridor.

Parking Meter Rate Advisory Team Update

Randy Bowman reported the Team meets approximately every two weeks and had its third meeting today. The next meeting is scheduled for March 9; three more will be held. The Team is charged with providing advice to the Director of Public Service, on or before April 30, on increasing revenues from some combination of rate increase. Some ideas being considered are: changing parking meter locations, adding parking meters, extending hours of operation, and adjusting duration of meters. Staff will give a full report to the Commission once the Team has made its recommendations.

OTHER BUSINESS

Snow Removal - Sidewalks

Commissioner Simmons expressed concern about the lack of enforcement on clearing snow from sidewalks. He indicated one of the main reasons Columbus Public Schools were closed last Wednesday was because the sidewalks were not cleared. He indicated it was appalling to see the conditions of the sidewalks even one week later.

Executive Secretary Austin indicated she and Randy Bowman share this concern. She talked about the three departments that can, by City Code, enforce this and explained some of reasons why enforcement is ineffective. She indicated staff has discussed this issue with the City's environment steward.

Discussion.

Executive Secretary Austin and Randy Bowman will take this issue to the Public Service Director to determine who may be the right person to lead the snow removal enforcement effort.

Chairman Stephens stated the Commission would like to investigate how to begin a process to better enforce or evaluate the policies regarding snow removal on sidewalks.

Bicentennial Bikeway Plan (BBP) Subcommittee

Chairman Stephens proposed creating a BBP Subcommittee

Discussion.

Motion to appoint a permanent Bicentennial Bikeway Plan Subcommittee: Conte; 2nd, Croasmun. Motion carried.

The charge for this Subcommittee will be discussed at the Commission's March 9 meeting.

Thank you to Commissioner Jack Cooley for his Years of Service to the Commission

On behalf of the Commission, Chairman Stevens regretfully accepted Jack Cooley's resignation and expressed gratitude for his years of service. Mr. Cooley served on the Commission since its inception in 2003.

There was discussion about filling the voting-member vacancy left by Mr. Cooley. Commissioners were encouraged to suggest candidates.

Mayor's State of the City Address

Executive Secretary Austin welcomed all to attend the Mayor's State of the City Address scheduled for February 24, 6:00 p.m. at the Lincoln Theatre.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia R. Grove
Recording Secretary

Jeff Stephens
Chairman

Patricia A. Austin
Executive Secretary

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